

## **Principles for Cost Measures for Public Reporting**

1. The Council should publish a comprehensive and inclusive set of cost measures that reflect sufficient volume and relevance to be useful to an intended audience: consumers, employers, providers, insurers or policy-makers.
2. Cost measures should be accurate and reliable, and should be as timely as is feasible.
3. Cost measures should include the range of costs per procedure for an individual provider, as well as the most likely cost (median, mean or mode).
4. The Council should make efforts to display cost measures, to the extent possible, in ways that minimize harmful unintended consequences such as increased health care costs, collusion, introducing barriers to market entry, and other anti-competitive behavior.
5. The Council should display:
  - cost and quality measures that are closely aligned on the same page;
  - cost measures that do not closely align with quality measures on separate pages; and
  - quality measures that do not closely align with cost measures on separate pages.

In situations where either cost or quality information is displayed alone, the measures will be accompanied by clear, concise text that cautions users not to infer quality from cost, or vice-versa.